

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01955 031027Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 EB-08 COME-00
MCE-00 HA-05 /088 W
-----071574 031039Z /14

O R 030935Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8103
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 8797
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL YSQT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
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DIA WASHDC

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BRUSSELS FOR USEES USCINCEUR FOR POLAD USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

3.O. 11652: NWT
TAGS: PEPR, CY, US, ASEC
SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO LIFTING EMBARGO

REF: A. NICOSIA 1950 (DTG 021425Z AUG 78
B. NICOSIA 1949 (DTG 021405Z AUG 78

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. ALL GREEK CYPRIOT PAPERS AUGUST 3 GAVE
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 01955 031027Z

HEADLINE TREATMENT TO LIFTING OF EMBARGO. EMPHASIS WAS ON
BITTERNESS EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU IN YESTERDAY'S
STATEMENT (REF A), WHICH WAS CARRIED IN FULL BY MOST PAPERS,
BUT PROMINENCE WAS ALSO GIVEN TO CONDITIONS IMPOSED BY WRIGHT
AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL AND TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENT
AFTER THE VOTE, PARTICULARLY TO HIS OPPOSITION TO ANY SETTLEMENT
IMPOSED BY MILITARY FORCE. IN GENERAL, LEFTIST PRESS STORIES

WERE MORE STRIDENTLY ANTI-AMERICAN WHILE RIGHTWING PAPERS, ALTHOUGH HIGHLY CRITICAL, GAVE MORE ATTENTION TO IMPLICATIONS OF CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO LIFTING OF EMBARGO AND TO "GREAT RESPONSIBILITIES" WHICH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU ATTRIBUTED TO U.S.

2. EDITORIALY, GREEK LANGUAGE PAPERS GAVE NUMBER OF DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS TO LIFTING OF EMBARGO. COMMUNIST HARAVGHI AND SOCIALIST TA NEA SAW IT AS NATURAL RESULT OF AMERICAN AND NATO IMPERIALIST POLICIES AND CALLED VOTE IN HOUSE A VICTORY BY WHITE HOUSE, PENTAGON, AND CIA OVER 205 HONORABLE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. RELATIVELY MODERATE PHILELEFTHEROS CALLED VOTE A DEFEAT FOR MORALITY. RIGHTWING AGON SAID LIFTING OF EMBARGO WAS SERIOUS BLOW TO CYPRUS' STRUGGLE AND INDICATED U.S., AS WELL AS GREAT BRITAIN, WOULD USE THEIR VETO POWER IN SECURITY COUNCIL TO PREVENT SANCTIONS BEING IMPOSED AGAINST TURKEY. AGON ALSO THOUGHT CONDITIONS OF WRIGHT AMENDMENT WERE INIMICAL TO CYPRUS' INTERESTS IN THAT U.S. ADMINISTRATION WOULD HAVE TO GIVE ASSURANCES TO CONGRESS OF TURKEY'S GOOD FAITH, THUS PORTRAYING GOC AS INTRANSIGENT PARTY. RIGHTWING SIMERINI COMMENTED THAPIN SPITE OF BITTERNESS AND INDIGNATION FELT BY CYPRIOTS, THEY SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE EMBARGO DECISION AND DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO PRESS WHITE HOUSE TO HONOR IT OBLIGATIONS. PRO-GOVERNMENT ELZV THERI KYPROS SAID PRESIDENT CARTER HAD BETRAYED CYPRUS AND HIS OWN PRINCIPLES AND CALLED FOR HELLENIC WORLD TO PUT ITS INTERESTS AHEAD OF THOSE OF SO-CALLED "FREE WORLD."

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PAGE 03 NICOSI 01955 031027Z

3. TURKISH CYPRIOT PRESS HAS NOT YET COMMENTED EDITORIALY ON EMBARGO VOTE, BUT HAS CONFINED ITSELF TO STRAIGHT REPORTING OF COMMENTS OF "TFSC PRESIDENT" DENKTASH (REF B), PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT, AND OTHER TURKISH LEADERS. END UNCLASSIFIED

4. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COMMENT. ALTHOUGH PRESS REACTION IS HIGHLY CRITICAL, IT IS NOT AS HARSH AS IT WAS WHEN U.S. ADMINISTRATION FIRST ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO LIFT EMBARGO, NOR IS THERE ANY INDICATION THAT PRESS INTENDS TO EMBARK ON PROLONGED ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN. WE BELIEVE WE DETECT A FEELING OF "WHAT IS DONE IS DONE AND THERE IS NO GOOD IN PROLONGING THE AGONY." NEVERTHELESS, GREEK CYPRIOTS AND OFFICIALS HAVE RECEIVED A SHOCK OVER LOSS OF PRESSURE ON TURKEY PROVIDED BY EMBARGO AND THEIR ATTITUDES TOWARD U.S. ARE BOUND TO BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY IT. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

STONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, EMBARGOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NICOSI01955
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780318-0009
Format: TEL
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808102/aaaadhwj.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3d100358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 NICOSIA 1950, 78 NICOSIA 1949
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1547779
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REACTION TO LIFTING EMBARGO
TAGS: PEPR, ASEC, PARM, SOPN, CY, US, (KYPRIANOU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3d100358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014